



#17/AMD+C
T. McBeth
11/4/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/502,873

Applicant: Derek L. Collison, et al.

Filed: February 11, 2000

TC/A.U. 2126

Examiner: Ho, The Thanh

Docket No.: 2982P006

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action mailed 08/04/2003, and the Final Office Action mailed 05/19/2003, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the following amendment and reconsider the present application in view of the submission below, in connection with the accompanying Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

Accompanying this amendment is a petition for a two-month extension of time to respond, with required fee.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.